

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Second Norfolk Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Second Norfolk Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 3.2% (3,875) reside in the Second Norfolk Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (736) of Second Norfolk Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 80.3% of admissions from the Second Norfolk Representative District were male and 19.7% were female.
- Over 69% of admissions were between the ages of 30-49.
- 77.9% of admissions were white non-Latino, 13% were black non-Latino, 6% were Latino, 0.5% were Asians, and 2.4% were other racial categories.
- 66.4% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 9.2% were married, and 14.5% reported not to be married now.
- 25.3% of admissions had less than high school education, 55.4% completed high school, and 19.2% had more than high school education.
- 16.1% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 53.3% of those admitted were homeless.
- 8.9% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

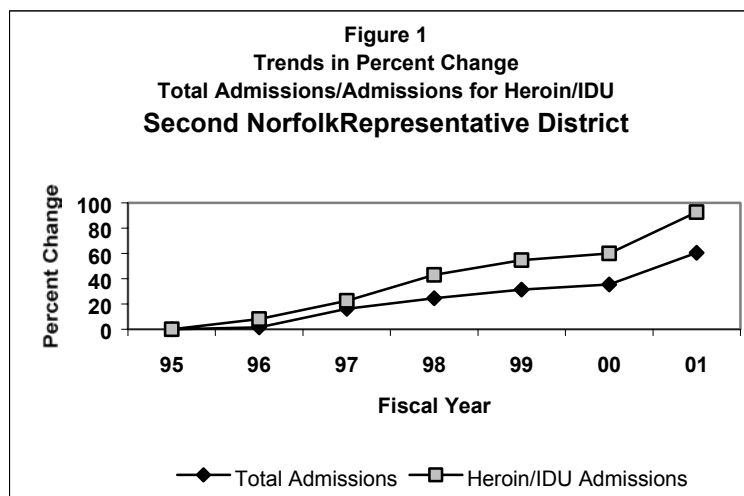
- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Second Norfolk Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Second Norfolk Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	2,414	1,912	489	813	469	727	574
FY '96	2,448	1,975	618	817	559	795	611
FY '97	2,805	2,423	891	1,078	798	905	688
FY '98	3,009	2,490	926	985	769	1,088	773
FY '99	3,173	2,616	882	1,061	791	1,154	858
FY '00	3,270	2,635	847	974	686	1,197	886
FY '01	3,875	3,020	895	1,116	702	1,466	1,040

- Since FY 1995, admissions from Second Norfolk Representative District reported a steady increase across all the drug categories. Alcohol use increased by 57%, marijuana by 83%, cocaine by 37%, crack by 49%, and heroin by 101%.

Heroin and Injection Drug Use:

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Second Norfolk Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV¹.



- Total treatment admission for all modalities rose 60.5% between FY 1995 and FY 2001. During the same period, admissions for heroin and injection drug use treatment increased by 92.6%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Second Norfolk Representative District.

	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	77.9 %	31.7%	2.9%	3.3%	2.5%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While cocaine as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was level with the State average, alcohol as a primary drug was higher, and, heroin, marijuana, and crack was lower within your District.

¹ The Schneider Institute for Health Policy, Brandeis University, 2000